

FY 2009 DUI Plan
July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

Submitted June 6, 2008
to the
State Highway Traffic Safety Bureau
Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena MT 59620-1001

Mission Statement

The _____ County DUI Task Force represents a diverse cross section of the community that includes citizens, government officials, law enforcement, business, health professionals, prevention and treatment specialists appointed by the Missoula County Commissioners with the mission of promoting a healthier and safer environment for county residents by reducing the number of alcohol related traffic crashes through public education, awareness, legislation and enforcement strategies.

Prepared by
_____, Coordinator
_____ County DUI Task Force
Lead Agency
Street Address
_____ MT 59802
406-_____
Email: _____

Approved
Missoula County Commissioners

Commissioner's Name

Commissioner's Name

Commissioner's Name

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
State Overview.....	3
County Overview.....	4
Program Goal & Administration.....	5
I. Policy & Legislation.....	6
II. Enforcement/Prosecution/Adjudication.....	6-8
III. Education/Awareness/Media Advocacy/Intervention.....	8-10
IV. Evaluation.....	10
Budget.....	11

STATE OVERVIEW:

Montana spans a land area of 147,138 miles, which includes 73,326 miles of public roadway. As of 2004, 926,865 people resided in the state and 712,880 individuals were licensed to drive. They registered 1,248,215 motor vehicles. Montana has experienced a general slow and steady increase in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) during the last 10 years with over 11 billion in 2004 (a 9.5% increase over the past 5 years). With population trends up sharply in the 1990's, there is concern that VMT will rise sharply during this decade.

Montana has one of the highest Mileage Death Rates (MDR) in the nation. (The number of deaths per 100 million miles traveled determines the MDR.) The MDR for Montana is 2.05, which is substantially higher than the national rate of 1.48.

Montana ranks 9th among the 50 states in per capita consumption of alcohol, and has the highest alcohol-related fatality rate in the nation per vehicle miles traveled. Montana is also identified as one of 13 states by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as a Strategic Evaluation State because of its high impaired driving rate.

Montana has the highest alcohol fatality rate in the nation per vehicle miles traveled. During 2005, alcohol/drug related crashes accounted for 9.8 percent of all reported traffic crashes. While this percentage is above the all time low reached in 1996, it is still far below the 22.3% of alcohol related crashes reported during 1983. A plateau has been reached in this percentage and it appears that it will take an even greater statewide effort to move it lower.

Alcohol/drug related crashes tend to result in more severe injuries than do crashes with no impairment. During the early 1980's, injuries related to alcohol accounted for as much as 36% of the total. During 2005, alcohol/drug related injuries were at 17.6% of all injuries. Economic loss to Montana from motor vehicle crashes in 2005 was \$595 million, up 5.3 percent over the past 5 years. That is an average of over \$600 for every citizen in Montana. **Over 158 million dollars of loss resulted from alcohol related crashes.**

DUI Task Forces were first formed in 1984. During the past 22 years, the alcohol rate has decreased more than 50 percent. Unfortunately, the lowest rate was reached in 1996, and during the last ten years, the rate has been nearly level. **Montana has seen a 13.3 percent decline in DUI convictions over the past 5 years.** A total of 4,970 drivers were convicted of driving under the influence during 2004 compared to 5,787 in 2000.

COUNTY OVERVIEW:

_____ County covers approximately _____ square miles in the western part of the state.

_____ County has a population of _____ residents.

The State Highway Traffic Safety Bureau reports that there were _____ individuals convicted of DUI in _____ County during calendar year 2006. Convictions by arresting agency were as follows:

- _____ – _____ Police Department
- _____ – Montana Highway Patrol
- _____ – _____ County Sheriff's Department

_____ **County continues to be challenged with:**

- Illegal alcohol sales:
 - Over-service of alcohol to persons 21 and older
 - Sales to persons under 21 years of age
- Repeat DUI offenders
- Refusals to submit to breath testing
- Minors in possession of alcohol (MIPs)

Progress has been made in the attempts to reduce alcohol related crashes in _____ County. However, impaired drivers continue to pose a significant problem.

To enhance the effectiveness of _____ County's impaired driving program in preventing injuries, saving lives, and reducing economic costs of motor vehicle crashes, this plan supports the priority recommendations of the State's Impaired Driving Assessment conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Technical Assistance Team on May 22-27, 2005 and the State's Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan.

PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of the _____ County DUI Task Force Strategic Plan for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 is to reduce the number of alcohol-related traffic crashes in _____ County by implementing the methods and strategies outlined below. This reduction, in turn, will lower the economic costs associated with ensuing injuries and deaths.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

DUI Task Force

The _____ County DUI Task Force represents a diverse cross section of the community that includes citizens, government officials, law enforcement, business, health professionals, prevention and treatment specialists committed to reducing alcohol-related traffic crashes in _____ County by implementing best practice traffic safety countermeasures. One of the more important activities of the Task Force is bringing various parties together to focus and coordinate efforts and acquire and share resources. The _____ County DUI Task Force is committed to carry out the objectives set forth in this strategic plan for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

DUI Program Coordinator

A program responding to the many objectives and strategies contained in the _____ County DUI Plan requires some expenditure for accounting services, planning, coordination and administration.

The _____ County DUI Task Force will provide monetary support to the _____ (name of Lead Agency for the DUI Task Force) for a DUI Program coordinator _____ hours per week (____ FTE) and monetary support for accounting services provided by the Lead Agency's accountant.

The DUI Program Coordinator will be responsible for the following:

- Implementing and monitoring the _____ County DUI Plan;
- Administering DUI overtime contracts with local agencies;
- Writing and submitting the _____ County DUI Plan, quarterly reports, and the year-end report to the _____ County Commissioners;
- Serving as the liaison to the media, the State Highway Traffic Safety Office and other community and State groups.

I. POLICY & LEGISLATION

OBJECTIVE: INCREASE PROBABILITY THAT IMPAIRED DRIVERS WILL BE SUBJECT TO SWIFT, SURE AND APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS.

STRATEGY: SUPPORT RIGOROUS DUI LAWS.

METHOD: Provide legislators and constituents with information needed to introduce and enact a *primary seat belt law and DUI laws in the state of Montana that are sound, rigorous, and easy to enforce and administer. *“Safety belt use has proven to be the best approach in reducing injuries and the death toll associated with impaired driving. Despite this fact, Montanans have resisted legislation to make safety belt use mandatory. As demonstrated in other states with a primary law, passage of a mandatory belt law alone would automatically increase the State’s usage and lower injuries and fatalities.” State of Montana Impaired Driving Assessment, May 22-27, 2005.*

TIMELINE: Prior to the 2009 Legislative Session and “upon request” during the 2009 Legislative Session.

II. ENFORCEMENT/PROSECUTION/ADJUDICATION

OBJECTIVE: INCREASE RISK PERCEPTION OF BEING ARRESTED AND CONVICTED FOR DUI.

STRATEGY: SUPPORT EFFORTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, PROSECUTORS & JUDGES.

METHOD: FUND DUI OVERTIME SHIFTS FOR PATROL ACTIVITY.

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide overtime funds for **enhanced DUI patrols and roadside safety spotchecks** on weekends, holidays, special events. The increased presence of law enforcement vehicles will send the message that impaired driving will not be tolerated. DUI overtime contracts will be awarded to the _____ County Sheriff’s Department, _____ Police Department, and Montana Highway Patrol. The DUI Task Force Coordinator will administer/monitor the contracts and collect quarterly arrest data from participating agencies.

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

METHOD: FUND OVERTIME SHIFTS FOR KEGGER & BAR PATROLS.

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide overtime funds to local law enforcement agencies **for kegger and bar patrols** (enhanced patrol presence in areas where juveniles congregate and use alcohol and other drugs). Contracts will be awarded to law enforcement agencies within _____ County which will be administered/monitored by the DUI Task Force Coordinator. The DUI Task Force may provide an honorarium to the _____ County Reserve Deputy Unit for their volunteer assistance with the kegger and bar patrols.

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

METHOD: FUND OVERTIME SHIFTS FOR STATE PROBATION & PAROLE OFFICERS.

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide the Department of Corrections - State Probation and Parole a contract to fund overtime shifts for Probation and Parole officers in _____ County to accompany plain clothes law enforcement officers on **bar checks to assist in the identification of any felony DUI offenders** who may be consuming alcohol in violation of terms of probation or parole. Probation and Parole officers will also make **random home visits and conduct breath testing of convicted felony DUI offenders** at their homes to insure compliance with conditions of supervision that they not consume alcohol or operate motor vehicles without permission of the Probation Officer and in accordance with the law, that they have interlock devices on any vehicle being driven. The contract will be administered/monitored by the DUI Task Force Coordinator.

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

METHOD: FUND DUI-RELATED EQUIPMENT & PROCESSING SUPPLIES.

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide funds to law enforcement agencies within _____ County to purchase equipment and supplies needed for enforcing DUI laws and processing DUI arrests (portable Preliminary Breath Testing devices (PBTs), cameras, mouthpieces, DVD's, video tapes, etc.).

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

PROBLEM: CITY & COUNTY PROSECUTORS OVERBURDENED WITH DUI CASES.

Increased enforcement by local law enforcement agencies has resulted in an increase in arrests, which in turn have flooded the courts with an influx of DUI and related cases. Unfortunately, the _____ City and _____ County Attorney's offices are not equipped to handle that many cases. Proficient and successful prosecution of impaired driving offenses is imperative. Refusal to submit to breath testing complicates the prosecution of impaired driving cases as they deprive prosecutors of the ability to prove impairment through use of blood alcohol concentration evidence.

OBJECTIVE: SWIFT PROSECUTION OF DUI OFFENDERS.

STRATEGY: IMPLEMENT & SUPPORT VISUAL TRAIL TECHNOLOGY.

Fund EQUIPMENT TO IMPLEMENT/SUPPORT VISUAL TRIAL PROGRAMS.

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide monetary support to the _____ City and _____ County Attorney's Offices for the purchase of supplies and equipment needed to conduct visual trails. Invoices for preauthorized supplies and equipment to conduct visual trails will be submitted to the (Name of Lead Agency for the DUI Task Force) for payment out of the DUI Task Force budget.

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

STRATEGY: DUI-SPECIFIC TRAINING FOR PROSECUTORS, JUDGES, LAW ENFORCEMENT & OTHERS.

METHOD: The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide monetary support for DUI-specific training regarding law issues, DUI detection and enforcement, and effective prosecution of DUI and Per Se offenses.

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

III. EDUCATION/AWARENESS/MEDIA ADVOCACY/INTERVENTION

OBJECTIVE: REDUCE INCIDENCE OF ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED DRIVING.

STRATEGY: AGE-APPROPRIATE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES (for Persons 21 Years of Age and Older).

The hospitality industry provides a large outlet for alcohol consumption. Fortunately, there are responsible and reasonable methods to enjoy what they offer. Safe Ride Programs are important and necessary for the hospitality industry and its customers. These alternative methods of transportation provide people who have consumed alcohol with safe rides home. Non-participants who are exposed to the program promotion and see others participate may be motivated to make more of an effort to not drive after drinking.

METHOD: SUPPORT SAFE RIDE PROGRAM

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide monetary support to (Name of Safe Ride Program), a nonprofit alternative transportation program for impaired tavern patrons. The program provides free taxi rides from participating bars that subscribe to the safe ride service to the patrons' homes.

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

METHOD: SUPPORT DESIGNATED DRIVER PROGRAMS.

The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide monetary support for designated driver programs for promotional materials (napkins, buttons, etc.) and publicity (banners, posters, radio and TV ads, etc.).

TIMELINE: Ongoing – upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

STRATEGY: PROMOTE POLICIES & PRACTICES THAT PREVENT UNDERAGE DRINKING AND OVER-SERVICE TO PERSONS 21 AND OLDER.

METHOD: MDOR & TIPS Responsible Alcohol Service Training.

Many alcohol servers have little knowledge of their legal responsibilities and potential liability when persons under 21 years of age are served alcohol or when persons 21 and older are over-served. The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide monetary support for the DUI Task Force Coordinator to provide the Montana Department of Revenue's "*Let's Control It*" Responsible Alcohol Sales/Service course and/or the TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures) course for licensed establishments in _____ County. Both courses include a segment on spotting fake ID's and carding practices facilitated by a local law enforcement officer. Both courses encourage written responsible alcohol service policies that discourage over-consumption, designated driver and alternative transportation options, and display of educational information to discourage impaired driving.

TIMELINE: 10 classes per year.

STRATEGY: INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN MDOR RESPONSIBLE ALCOHOL SALES/SERVICE CLASSES.

METHOD: **Provide Recognition for Proactive Licensed Establishments** by awarding plaques to businesses that actively participate in the MDOR classes, window decals to identify businesses that actively participate, newspaper ads listing businesses that actively participate, etc.

TIMELINE: Ongoing - upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

STRATEGY: INCREASE PUBLIC PERCEPTION THAT IMPAIRED DRIVING WILL RESULT IN AN ARREST.

METHOD: SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE YEAR-ROUND PUBLIC INFORMATION & EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO ENHANCE GENERAL DETERRENCE BY INCREASING KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS, CHANGING ATTITUDES & MODIFYING BEHAVIOR.

Support for PI&E activities and programs may include:

- **Speakers' Bureau** of professionals, such as prosecutors, judges, nurses, doctors, emergency medical personnel, law enforcement officers, and treatment professionals, to educate the public about legal, health, cost, and other consequences of underage drinking and impaired driving.
- **Educational Programs** such as **Trauma Nurses Talk Tough**, the **"Your Choice" Program** (DUI crash reenactment), the **Fatal Vision Program** (DUI goggles), **classroom traffic safety presentations** (with appropriate emphasis on underage drinking and impaired driving), **student organizations that promote traffic safety and responsible decisions**, etc.
- **High Visibility Messages (paid, earned and donated media)** such as **seasonal billboards**, **media events** (live radio remotes) and **movie theater slides** scheduled in conjunction with National Mobilization Campaigns to reduce impaired driving during the heavily traveled holidays of Christmas/New Year, Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day. The Task Force will also focus on other high-risk times throughout the year such as homecoming, spring break, prom and graduation, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween, etc. to the degree that funds are available. Messages will emphasize underage drinking, impaired driving enforcement, and personal responsibility including designated drivers and alternative transportation.
- **Alcohol-free Events** such as **First Night** (Missoula's annual alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration), the **Senior All Night Party**, etc.

TIMELINE: Ongoing - upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

PROBLEM: RECIDIVISM

STRATEGY: DISSUADE CONVICTED DUI OFFENDERS FROM DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE IN THE FUTURE.

METHOD: SUPPORT TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS. The _____ County DUI Task Force may provide scholarship funds for indigent persons convicted of DUI who must attend the mandatory Assessment, Course, and Treatment (ACT) program, or who are referred to treatment but cannot afford to pay for services. In addition, the Task Force may provide funds for training materials, equipment and/or other support for the ACT program or other treatment programs in Missoula County that target convicted DUI offenders.

TIMELINE: Ongoing - upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

METHOD: SUPPORT DUI VICTIM'S IMPACT PANEL

The goals of a DUI Victim's Impact Panel are to:

- enhance the emotional healing of victims by offering them an outlet to speak of their experience and to believe that their participation may prevent others from experiencing a similar tragedy;
- enable the convicted DUI offender to understand impaired driving from the victim's perspective; and
- imprint in the minds of offenders true stories, told from the heart, which might be recalled later when a decision to drink and drive is an option.

The _____ County DUI Task Force will provide monetary support for **monthly stipends in the amount of \$50 for panel speakers** participating in the DUI Victim's Impact Panel that has been an integral component of the state sponsored Assessment, Court and Treatment (ACT) Program in Missoula County. Participation in the ACT Program is court mandated for convicted impaired drivers.

TIMELINE: Ongoing - upon request, availability of funds and Task Force support.

IV. EVALUATION

Outcomes to the strategies described in this plan will be closely monitored. Due to limited resources, we recognize that it is not possible to conduct a sophisticated evaluation on all aspects of this plan. Instead, we will get specific about particular projects such as the focus on safe ride alternatives, sales to minors, and responsible alcohol sales/service training. To measure progress, we will look at trend data for the following measures:

- Alcohol related fatalities and injuries (all ages)
- Percent of drinking drivers ages 15-19, in fatal or injury crashes (NHTSA suggests the 15 to 19 age group to better target the analysis).
- Number of participants who attend Responsible Alcohol Sales/Service training.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

BUDGET

		FY07	FY08
Administration/Coordination/Programs		\$	\$
Enforcement/Prosecution/Adjudication			
▪ Probation & Parole (Dept. of Corrections)	\$		
▪ Highway Patrol	\$		
▪ Police Dept.	\$		
▪ Sheriff's Dept.	\$		
▪ UM Police Dept.	\$		
▪ DUI Process Supplies/Equipment	\$		
▪ City Attorney	\$		
▪ County Attorney	\$		
▪ Missoula County Reserve Deputy Unit	\$		
Education/Awareness/Media Advocacy/Intervention		\$*	\$
▪ Responsible Alcohol Sales/Service			
▪ Home Free Missoula			
▪ Victim's Impact Panel			
▪ Your Choice Program			
▪ Fatal Vision Program			
▪ PI&E Campaign			
▪ Evaluation			
▪ Other			
Total		\$	\$

*Group needs to meet to discuss how dollars will be allocated in this category.

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND

Unspent balances remaining in law enforcement DUI overtime contracts at the end of each fiscal year as well as any other unspent DUI Task Force funding allocations will be placed in a fund to support special impaired driving prevention projects. Requests for Special Project Fund allocations will be considered by DUI Task Force members as they arise throughout each fiscal year.